

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180035  
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05  
USIA-06 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10  
/084 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:JFHARTLEY:LL  
APPROVED BY IO/UNESCO:RCHEATER  
IO/UCS:OOLSON (DRAFT)

-----036337 020111Z /66

P 012208Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180035

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, PORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT:UNESCO: MASS MEDIA PRINCIPLES DRAFT DECLARATION  
AND WISEMEN COMMISSION

REF: (A) PARIS 21070; (B) STATE 154969

1. DEPT APPRECIATES INFORMATION IN REFTEL A BUT CONCERNED  
ABOUT POTENTIALLY ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION ON  
DRAFT DECLARATION AND WISEMEN'S COMMISSION.

2. RE DRAFT DECLARATION, DEPT CONCERNED THAT DELAY AND  
APPARENT SECRETIVENESS IN PREPARING NEW VERSION MAY FORE-  
SHORTEN PERIOD FOR CONVASSING MEMBER STATES TO THE DEGREE  
THAT CONSULTATIONS MAY BE HASTY AND PERFUNCTORY. DEPT  
REGARDS IT ESSENTIAL THAT U.S. RECOMMENDATIONS IN  
REDRAFTING PROCESS, BOTH OF SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL  
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PAGE 02 STATE 180035

NATURE, CAN BE OFFERED WHILE THERE IS SUFFICIENT TIME FOR  
DELIBERATION AND MANEUVER AND WHILE DRAFT CONCEPT AND  
LANGUAGE ARE ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE FLEXIBLE. WE WOULD BE  
DISPLEASED IF A STRATEGY OPTION UNDER CONSIDERATION (E.G.,  
A RECOMMENDATION TO INVITE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ENTITIES TO  
REVIEW THE DRAFT) WERE RENDERED USELESS BECAUSE OF INSUF-  
FICIENT TIME. PERMDEL SHOULD LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO

CONVEY DEPT'S CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE RAMIFICATIONS OF LACK OF VISIBLE ACTION.

3. DEPT AWAITING PERMDEL'S COMMENTS ON OPTION STRATEGY PAPER FORWARDED EARLIER (REFTEL B). AN EARLY RESPONSE WOULD BE USEFUL HERE IN CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. MEDIA PEOPLE.

4. INACTION ON WISEMEN'S COMMISSION IS HAMPERING OUR INTENTION OF ENCOURAGING U.S. COMMUNICATION SECTOR TO PLAY ACTIVE AND CREATIVE SUPPORTING ROLE. BILL HARLEY, AS CONSULTANT TO NATCOM SECRETARIAT (UCS), HAS INFORMALLY APPROACHED ELIE ABEL ON THE IDEA OF SELECTING PANEL OF EXTRA-OFFICIAL CONSULTANTS TO BACKSTOP HIM WHEN AND IF HE IS NAMED TO COMMISSION BY DG. ABEL CONCURS, BUT NOTHING CAN BE INITIATED UNTIL DG NAMES COMMISSION AND DELIVERS ITS MANDATE. ABEL IS SAID TO BE UNEASY BECAUSE HE IS FORCED TO DEFER IMPORTANT PERSONAL DECISIONS PENDING FORMATION OF THE COMMISSION.

5. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION PERMDEL CAN PROVIDE ABOUT JOGJAKARTA MEETING OF EXPERTS ON NEWS AGENCIES IN ASIA: PRECISE DATES IN OCTOBER, PROVISIONAL AGENDA, PARTICIPANTS, WHETHER OR NOT OBSERVERS WELCOME, AND PERMDEL'S RECOMMENDATION ON USG OBSERVER PRESENCE.

6. FYI: DEPT HAS LEARNED THAT DG M'BOW HAS DECLINED  
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PAGE 03 STATE 180035

INVITATION TO ADDRESS ANNUAL MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATION IN WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 12-15, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF CONFLICT WITH EXBD. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** AORG, PORG, MASS, US, UNESCO  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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